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A.J.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

GEERT et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2752-33

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Group:

Filed: March 13, 2001

Examiner:

For: IDENTIFICATION OF MICROORGANISMS CAUSING ACUTE RESPIRATORY
TRACT INFECTIONS (ARI)

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March 13, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows:

Insert the attached Sequence Listing after the figures.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein in addition also at least one primer pair for the specific detection of *B. pertussis* and *B. parapertussis* are used.

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4. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein said primers are chosen from Table 2 of Table 4.